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           Attorneys for Nugget Construction Co., Inc.,
           and USF&G, Defendants
      6
                               IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
      7
                             FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA AT ANCHORAGE
      8
           UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the
           use of NORTH STAR TERMINAL &
      9
           STEVEDORE COMPANY, d/b/a NORTHERN
           STEVEDORING & HANDLING, and NORTH
                                                          No. A98-009 CIV (TMB)
     10
           STAR TERMINAL & STEVEDORE COMPANY,
           d/b/a Northern Stevedoring &
     11
           Handling, on its own behalf,
     12
                             Plaintiffs,
                 and
     13
           UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the
     14
           use of SHORESIDE PETROLEUM, INC.,
           d/b/a Marathon Fuel Service, and
     15
           SHORESIDE PETROLEUM, INC., d/b/a
                                                          ERRATA REGARDING:
           Marathon Fuel Service, on its own
                                                          NUGGET'S RESPONSE TO MOTION
     16
                                                          FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE
           behalf,
                                                          (CORRECTING SIGNATURE AND
     17
                       Intervening Plaintiffs,
                                                          CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DATES
                 and
     18
           METCO, INC.,
     19
 Fax: (907) 258-5519
                       Intervening Plaintiff,
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Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2136 (907) 258-0106 Fax: (907) 258-
                 vs.
     21
           NUGGET CONSTRUCTION, INC.; SPENCER
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           ROCK PRODUCTS, INC.,; UNITED
           STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY
     23
           COMPANY; and ROBERT A. LAPORE,
     24
                             Defendants.
     25
  Tel:
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At the June 8, 2006 status hearing, the Court asked the parties whether there was any reason to set a settlement conference. Given counsels' responses, the Court correctly inferred that there was no point in doing so then. So what has changed since then? The answer is: nothing.

Settlement attempts to date have been fruitless and there is no reason to believe this would change absent some dramatic turn of events in the case. Should such a change occur, however, Nugget is more than willing to try and settle this matter and would be agreeable to another settlement conference. However, as the Court is aware (based on pleadings filed by USF&G), Shoreside and Metco were recently each made settlement offers in accordance with Judge Holland's 2002 decision, including interest and attorneys' fees, and declined to even acknowledge those offers, much less accept them, and no counteroffers have been received.

Based on this, Nugget's response on June 8 is the same as it is now: there is no reason to hold a settlement conference prior to a decision on the outstanding Motions for Summary Judgment on Plaintiffs' State law claims. It is apparent that the existence of these baseless claims, particularly those sounding in tort, precludes meaningful settlement discussions.

It is also quite surprising that Plaintiffs would suggest Judge Holland as the settlement judge. Given Judge Holland's history in this matter, Nugget does not believe that he would be the most effective mediator and would ask that another judge be appointed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These offers were made not because Nugget believes Plaintiffs are entitled to full recovery, but because Nugget fully expected to have them rejected, thereby allowing Nugget to seek its attorneys' fees after trial.

U.S. ex rel. North Star, et al. v. Nugget Construction, et al. Case No. A98-009 CIV (TMB)

Errata re: Response to Motion for Settlement Conference -- Page 1 of 3

Dated:	July	6,	2006

OLES MORRISON RINKER & BAKER LLP Attorneys for Nugget Construction, Inc., and United States Fidelity and Guaranty Co.

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 $\hbox{\it U.S. ex rel. North Star, et al. v. Nugget Construction, et al. } \\ \hbox{\it Case No. A98-009 CIV (TMB)}$ 

Errata re: Response to Motion for Settlement Conference -- Page 2 of 3

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 6th day of July, 2006, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served

electronically, via ECF on:

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